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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q54505

Hitoshi MATSUMOTO, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/318,268

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: 1128

Examiner: Blaise L. MOUTTET

Filed: May 25, 1999

For: INK CARTRIDGE, INK-JET PRINTING APPARATUS, AND REFILLING  
DEVICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/318,268

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

1. For JPA-H10-024612, an English Abstract, as well as the English counterpart Application USP 6,116,716 is enclosed.
2. For JPA-H08-224891, an English Abstract, as well as the English counterpart Application USP 5,949,447 is enclosed.
3. For JPA-H07-266578, an English Abstract, as well as the English counterpart Application USP 5,726,692 is enclosed.
4. For JPA-H08-230213, an English Abstract, as well as the English counterpart Application EP0720916A2 is enclosed.
5. For JPA-H09-058014, a computer generated translation, as well as an English Abstract is enclosed.
6. For JPA-H06-155758, a computer generated translation, as well as an English Abstract is enclosed.
7. For JPA-H10-006527, an English Abstract, as well as the English counterpart Application USP 6,142,600 is enclosed.

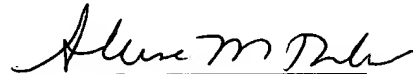
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/318,268

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 14, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/318,268  
 Confirmation Number 1128  
 Filing Date May 25, 1999  
 First Named Inventor Hitoshi MATSUMOTO  
 Art Unit 2853  
 Examiner Name Blaise L. MOUTTET  
 Attorney Docket Number Q54505

Sheet 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,116,716		09/12/2000	Tajika et al.
		US 5,949,447		09/07/1999	Arai et al.
		US 5,726,692		03/10/1998	Yamaguchi et al.
		US 6,142,600		11/07/2000	Takahashi et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	10-024612		01/27/1998		
		JP	08-224891		09/03/1996		
		JP	07-266578		10/17/1995		
		JP	08-230213		09/10/1996		
		JP	09-058014		03/04/1997		
		JP	06-155758		06/03/1994		
		JP	10-006527		01/13/1998		
		EP	0720916	A2	07/10/1996		

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.